

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the patent application.

Listing Of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): A hanger system for supporting a large volume flexible medical container in a rigid box, the large volume flexible medical container defining a sterile barrier to an interior of the container having a top side having a top outer perimeter edge and sidewalls in supportive contact with sidewalls of the rigid box, the system comprising a container hanger connected to the rigid box and to a portion of the top side of the flexible container spaced inward from the top outer perimeter edge and applying an upward force to the portion of the flexible container.

Claims 13-17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (previously presented): A system for supporting a three-dimensional flexible container within a box, the flexible container defining a sterile barrier to an interior having a volume of at least about 200 liters, the flexible container having a first perimeter defined by a substantially horizontal cross-sectional plane and the box having a second perimeter defined by the substantially horizontal cross-sectional plane when the flexible container is positioned within the box, the first perimeter being greater than the second perimeter.

Claim 19 (original): The system of claim 18 wherein the first perimeter is within a range of about 2% to about 10% larger than the second perimeter.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The hanger system of claim 12, wherein the portion of the top side of the flexible container further comprises a plurality of connection locations connected to the container hanger.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The hanger system of claim 12, wherein the top side of the flexible container has a diagonal seam, and the container hanger is connected to the flexible container along the diagonal seam between about 35% and about 65% of a length of the seam measured from an outer corner of the flexible container.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The hanger system of claim 12, wherein the container hanger further comprises a counterweight connected to the portion of the top side of the flexible container.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The hanger system of claim 12, wherein the container hanger further comprises an elastic member assembly connected to the portion of the top side of the flexible container.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The system of claim 18, wherein the first and second perimeters have one of a generally square or rectangular shape.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The system of claim 18, wherein the first perimeter is greater than the second perimeter along substantially all of a vertical height of the flexible container and the box.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The system of claim 25, wherein the first perimeter is within a range of about 2% to about 10% larger than the second perimeter.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The system of claim 18, wherein a corner of the flexible container is supported by a corner of the box when the flexible container contains fluid.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The system of claim 18, further comprising a container hanger connected to a top portion of the flexible container, the container hanger biasing the top portion of the flexible container upward.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A large-volume flexible container support system, comprising:

a box having an interior volume;
a large-volume flexible container inside of the box, the flexible container having a first perimeter defined by a substantially horizontal cross-sectional plane and the box having a second perimeter defined by the substantially horizontal cross-sectional plane when the flexible container is positioned within the box, the first perimeter being greater than the second perimeter, and having a size greater than the interior volume of the box, the large-volume flexible container being closed and forming a sterile barrier to an interior of the container; and

a container hanger connected to a top portion of the large-volume flexible container and applying an upward force to the top portion of the large-volume flexible container.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The large-volume flexible container support system of claim 29, wherein the container hanger is connected to the large-volume flexible container at a location spaced substantially away from an upper corner of the large-volume flexible container.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The large-volume container support system of claim 29, wherein the top portion of the large-volume flexible container has a diagonal seam, and the container hanger is connected to the large-volume flexible container along the diagonal seam between about 35% and about 65% of a length of the seam measured from an outer corner of the large-volume flexible container.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The large-volume container support system of claim 29, wherein the container hanger further comprises a counterweight connected to the top portion of the large-volume flexible container.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The large-volume container support system of claim 29, wherein the container hanger further comprises an elastic member assembly connected to the top portion of the large-volume flexible container.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The large-volume container support system of claim 29, wherein the large-volume flexible container has a first perimeter in a substantially horizontal plane and the box has a second perimeter in the substantially horizontal plane, the first perimeter being greater than the second perimeter.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The large-volume container support system of claim 34, wherein the first perimeter is within a range of about 2% to about 10% larger than the second perimeter.

Claim 36 (previously presented): A hanger system for supporting a large volume flexible medical container in a rigid box, the system comprising a means for upwardly biasing a top portion of the flexible container, the means being connected to the rigid box and the top portion of the flexible container;

wherein the top portion of the flexible container has a diagonal seam, and the means is connected to the flexible container along the diagonal seam between about 35% and about 65% of a length of the seam measured from an outer corner of the flexible container.

Claim 37 (currently amended): A hanger system for supporting a large volume flexible medical container forming a sterile barrier to an interior of the container, the flexible container disposed in a rigid box, the large-volume flexible medical container having sidewalls in supportive contact with sidewalls of the rigid box the system comprising a means for upwardly biasing a top portion of the flexible container, the means being connected to the rigid box and the top portion of the flexible container;

wherein the means further comprises a counterweight connected to the top portion of the flexible container.

Claim 38 (previously presented): A large-volume flexible container support system, comprising:

a box having an interior volume;

a large-volume flexible container inside of the box and having a size greater than the interior volume of the box; and

a container hanger connected to a top portion of the large-volume flexible container and biasing the top portion of the large-volume flexible container upward;

wherein the top portion of the large-volume flexible container has a diagonal seam, and the container hanger is connected to the large-volume flexible container along the diagonal seam between about 35% and about 65% of a length of the seam measured from an outer corner of the large-volume flexible container.

Claim 39 (previously presented): A large-volume flexible container support system, comprising:

a box having an interior volume;

a large-volume flexible container inside of the box, the flexible container having a first perimeter defined by a substantially horizontal cross-sectional plane and the box having a second perimeter defined by the substantially horizontal cross-sectional plane when the flexible container is positioned within the box, the first perimeter being greater than the second perimeter and having a size greater than the interior volume of the box; and

a container hanger connected to a top portion of the large-volume flexible container and biasing the top portion of the large-volume flexible container upward;

wherein the container hanger further comprises a counterweight connected to the top portion of the large-volume flexible container.

Claim 40 (previously presented): A large-volume flexible container support system, comprising:

a box having an interior volume;

a large-volume flexible container inside of the box and having a size greater than the interior volume of the box, the container forming a sterile barrier to an interior of the container; and

a container hanger connected to a top portion of the large-volume flexible container and biasing the top portion of the large-volume flexible container upward;

wherein the container hanger further comprises an elastic member assembly connected to the top portion of the large-volume flexible container.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The system of claim 18, wherein the flexible container has an internal volume greater than an internal volume of the box when the container is positioned outside of the box.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The large-volume container support system of claim 29, wherein the large-volume flexible container has a top outer perimeter edge, and the container hanger is connected to the top portion of the large-volume flexible container spaced inward from the top outer perimeter edge.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The large-volume container support system of claim 29, wherein the container hanger applies a variable upward force to the top portion of the flexible container.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The large-volume container support system of claim 29, wherein the container hanger has a connection portion connected to the top portion of the large-volume flexible container, and the connection portion is vertically movable during filling and emptying of the large-volume flexible container.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The large-volume container support system of claim 29, wherein the large-volume flexible container has a volume of at least about 200 liters.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The hanger system of claim 12, wherein the container hanger applies a variable upward force to the top portion of the flexible container.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The hanger system of claim 12, wherein the container hanger comprises a connection member connected to the portion of the top side of the flexible container, and the connection member being vertically movable during filling and emptying of the flexible container.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The hanger system of claim 12, wherein the large volume flexible container has a volume of at least about 200 liters.